of surprise checks. As a result, in the month of December 1992 and January 1993, they have detected 11 such cases of diversion of lines.

Stringent action has been taken against officers whenever lapses were noticed on their part.

Opening of a telegraph office in Dharmanagar, Tripura

839. SHRI SUDHIR RANJAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand for opening a Departmental Telegraph Office at Dharmanagar the gateway to Tripura; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government in establish the Departmental Telegraph Office there in view of its importance as an industrial centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present the Telegraph traffic does not justify an independent Departmental Telegraph Office at Dharmanagar.

Waiting list of telephones for Hubli Dharwad

840. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hubli Dharwad has a long waiting list for telephones;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action is being taken by Government to wipe out the waiting list and also to improve the functioning of telephone exchanges in the twin city?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Waiting list in different categories is as follows:—

OYT	213
Special	443
General	5454
Total . . .	6110

(c) This waiting list is planned to be cleared in 1994. The functioning of the existing telephone exchanges in the twin cities is within the prescribed norms.

बिहार के नये जिला केन्द्रों में एस0 टी0 डी0 सुविधा

841. **श्री गया सिंह** : क्या **संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिहार में अनेक नये जिला केन्द्र स्थापित किये गये हैं और इन केन्द्रों में एस.टी.डी. सुविधा उपलब्ध नहीं है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त जिला केन्द्रों में सरकार कब तक एस.टी.डी. सुविधा मुहैया कराने का विचार रखती है ?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम) : (क) जी, नहीं । बिहार में सभी 50 जिला केन्द्रों में एस. टी.डी. सुविधा प्रदान की जा चुकी है।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

चास में खराब टेलीफोन केन्द्र

842. **श्री गया सिंह** : क्या **संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिहार में बोकारो के जिला मुख्यालय चास में एस.टी.डी. सुविधायुक्त टेलीफोन केन्द्र से बाहर के लिए कोई काल नहीं होती है ;